Dear Jim, my today's letter to Haskin 3/3/75

After two hours of the soundest, most refreshing sleep I started to get to work this morning and then though to look at my watch. So, back to bed. For another fine-quality rest of an hour and a half. I was then wide awake, thanks to the bursitis, anxious to get things cleaned up so I can again write, so I went to work. More than the letter I sent you on Pena/Wyatt.

Well, I didn't get any farthur behind, cleaned up today's mail and orders and a couple delayed, caught up on some overdue filing of which a tower remains, and all the time was troubled by Newhall's story of which I'm glad you have a copy. I also hope you read it with care.

The closer it came to time for going for Lil the more uneasy I became about that caper. It is that at best. Writing Marc had been on my mind all day. I did get the letter done 10 minutes after I should have gone for Lil. I mailed it with the one to you, unread.

If there had been more time I'd have written you separately about this because I believe you will be unhappy with it. I can't now go into all I'd like to because when I put my hand to my head the head registers ice and the hand fire and I'm shivvering. I guess this thing is at least temporarily some kind of chill. So, Im saying it (for me) briefly and then to bed.

Strong as my letter may seem to you, much is heavily understated. Newhall is a fine young man but hardly the best informed on this subject. However, he was stunned when Lane told him he was filing for the spectro. Newhall reminded him that we had. Lane's response, in plain English, is that we are fuckups who do not know what we are doing, are going to be enjoined, and he is going to rescue us and all the rest.Lane to the rescue will be the world's 10th and 11th wonders.

The unnamed (in the story) colleagues of whom Newhall made notes are Billings(who was chicken by 1967 and silent since), Richard Goodwin (who won't touch this in a story and his magazine can't - and wouldn t mention WWIV), O'Toole, about whom even Newhall has the deepest doubts, and "probably" Wecht.

By now you shpuld need no info on Lane. He told you what he did Thursday. If he was serious and honest he'd have called me by now regardless of what specifics there may have been between you. He hasn't and unless he is desparate he won't. His objective was to get past that meeting and I presume he did with his word that he never intended keeping.

IPS is a different matter. They have always had some money trouble, recently complicated by complaints from women who say they are or who really are seeking liberation from its male oppressiveness.

I have been trying with them since 1966. Believe me, what Marc then asked of me was much more indelicate than I suggest. This did not deter me. I spent much time and for me money in the effort. Twixt and tween they had need for me to speak to some of their people as with the winding down of the war they sought other issues on which to keep going and with a pitch for money. Nothing came of it, I don't mind my brains being picked, and the addition to my debt was not all that great. Nor were any promises kept, like one of the cats who used me had a truck and was going to haul books from Washington to me when he and his people would be as close as a half mile normally.

Their careers have been the wound-down war. They are latched into their private think-tank and its causes are over. So, they are characters in search of a cause. Suddenly with the crazy Boston business they found it, with Mark also looking for something now that the Indian trial gives him no real public attention.

If <u>any one</u> of these self-seekers had been genuinely serious it was impossible for him to miss <u>both</u> of us. Moreover, they haven't the slighest idea what the facts or realities are. These never concerned the glib Mark, who loves being made into what he can call a martyr. The kids take it that way and suddenly he is talking again at $1500 per. Or that's what it was before the real inflation.

I don't care what these characters tell themselves or what their reputations are, this whole affair is disreputable, untehical, unprincipled and irresponsible. I may not be able to do anything about it but I did have the intent of capturing their attention. Please note that I did say cooperation with Mark is possible is he is willing and honest. I do not kid you. This is a polite way of saying he will not permit it. Nor will they or the ACLU yellows take this case to court instead of you. Wanna bet?